

The regular meeting of the Town Assembly of the Village of Arden was held on September 24, 1973 in the Gild Hall with Chairman, William Press presiding.

The minutes of the June 25 and the special meetings held on July 9 and 16 were circulated, and on motion were approved.

The financial report of the Trustees was presented and on motion accepted. A copy is on file.

Mr. Liberman reported that the deed to the Buzz Ware Village Center has been turned over to the Village of Arden.

He reported the death of I.B. Finkelstein who had served Arden as Trustee for 25 years. Word has been received of the death of Margaret Broadbent who served as teacher in the Arden School several times. Both of these former residents will be honored by a memorial service on October 14 at 2 P. M. in the Frank Stephens Memorial Theatre.

The Trustees have not received a corrected tax bill from the county, because they have not given us a figure on the 85 acres of land that are not tax exempt. The leased land has a higher value than the commons and forests. The only taxes that have been paid as those on buildings, and the sewer assessment and school tax. The Trustees retained Mr. Carl Von Dreele to work out the problem with the county and he was able to reduce the bill by \$50001, but it is still not correct. The problem is the way Cole, Laver, Trumble, the firm that did the reassessment of New Castle County, included properties that did not belong to Arden and did not distinguish between the leased and commons.

In order to fill the vacancy in the Trustees the two remaining trustees nominate someone and then that name is submitted to referendum for approval by the majority of the residents. Report on motion accepted.

No report from the Auditing Committee or the Board of Assessors.

Clyde Davis, Chairman of the Budget Committee, circulated the proposed budget for 1974-1975. Estimated income is \$96,700. Taxes including sewer assessment is \$70,000. and Administrative expenses \$3,100. Amount available for budgeting is \$23,600. The amount budgeted is \$20,985 leaving a balance for reserve of \$2,615. If the 1974 taxes exceed the estimate, the excess payment is to be taken from the road and commons budgeted expenses. Mr. Davis thanked Aaron Hamburger for his assistance with the budget. On motion the proposed budget was accepted and it will be submitted to referendum for approval by the majority of the residents.

The Civic Committee report was given by Warren Hoffman, Chairman. Road work has been deferred because of the uncertainty about the amount of money to be available for road reconstruction. Only the required patching has been done, but costs are being obtained for work on Cherry Lane, Millers road from Cherry to Ardentown border, Lower Lane and Sherwood Road from Lovers Lane to The Highway. The amount of work that can be done will depend upon the amount of money available in the Municipal Street Aid Fund and the Revenue Sharing fund. We have had to remove several elm trees because of Dutch elm disease. All leaseholders having diseased elm trees are urged to have them removed because the disease spreads.

The need for money for taxes has set back the repaving schedule by several years and then the drainage improvements will be necessary. The annual pickup of trash has been deferred until spring because of lack of money. The report was approved as presented.



Richard Lynch presented the Safety Committee report. The committee had three meetings since June and one of them was an open meeting at which time residents could present their particular problems. The revised ordinance on use of the commons and the restriction on parking on Millers Road seems to have totally eliminated gatherings on the Green.

Parking stickers were distributed to residents living directly on the Arden Green to mark their cars. Members of the Safety Committee were named constables to enforce rules that the State Police have not typically enforced, such as parking.

The S.P.C. A. have made several special patrols to enforce laws concerning dogs running at large.

A heavy patrol will be carried out by volunteers for about two weeks around Halloween to try to control vandalism.

The State Highway Department has turned down our request for a light at Orleans and Harvey Roads, because their traffic survey indicated the light was not needed.

\$40 has been received by the Village from fines levied under Arden ordinances in magistrate court.

The report on motion was accepted.

The parking for residents in the property owned by Donald Holcomb at 1812 Millers Road is not adequate and they still have to park along Millers Road. This is now illegal because No Parking signs will be erected there soon.

The Community Planning Committee reported that it has been urging all residents to provide adequate parking on their own properties. The ban on parking on the Arden Greens has been in force for several years.

A motion was made and passed that the Town Assembly request that the Trustees communicate with Donald Holcomb concerning the parking problem at the Weaving Shop and insist that he provide sufficient off street parking for the tenants of his apartment so as not to inconvenience the public.

It was noted that the Civic and Safety Committees have come up with an affective procedure to control the situation around the greens; therefore, the Town Assembly thanks them for their efforts.

Registration Committee reported 415 voters. They will be conducting the referendum in October for approval of the Budget and election of the Assessors.

Aaron Hamburger reported for the Buzz Ware Village Center committee.

The contract with the Wilmington Montessori Association was concluded on July 7, 1973. The land and Building has been transferred to the Village of Arden. The Montessori Association is happy to be in Arden and welcome visitors to the school.

Problem arose about equipment because Mt. Pleasant School district removed all equipment from the building. The committee has negotiated a loan with Mt. Pleasant to return certain big items such as the piano, folding chairs, table, fire extinguishers, floor scrubber and polisher.



Because all the equipment is only borrowed, a modest amount has been asked for in the budget.

2. Al Bratten has been secured on contract as custodian and security work.
3. The Committee for the center is as follows: William Morley, Chairman, Scheduling, Beatrice Jaffe; Jerry Millstein, Program planner, Sue Dougherty and Aaron Hamburger, Maintenance committee.
4. There is a need to set the committee up on a permanent basis and set up financial needs.
5. The building can be used after school and weekends. Feel that the activity should be the Three Arden related, and we do not want to encourage use of the building by outside organizations.

ACRA painted an attractive mural on the back of the school.

No report from the Three Ardens committee and the Harvey Road Committee.

Several people met with committees from Lancashire concerning the proposed widening of Naamans creek. New Castle County has money and plans to remove the mill dam and clear out some debris, rocks and tree stumps in that area in order to permit the water to flow freer. Those present requested that Arden be assured that no damage would result to the creek bed, dams and flood plain because of the removal of the mill dam.

Under old business Michael Curtis said that it is still possible to sign up for the course in Single Tax being held on Mondays at the Buzz Ware Village Center.

Aaron Hamburger proposed the following motion:

"The Town Assembly establish the Village Center Committee, as herein defined, as a standing Committee of the Village of Arden:

1. The Village Center Committee shall consist of five residents of Arden, elected by a majority of those voting at the regular March meeting. The term shall be two year, three members to be elected on odd numbered years and two on even numbered years.
2. It shall be the duty of the Village Center Committee to:
  - a. Exercise general supervision over the Buzz Ware Village Center building including maintenance, construction, housekeeping and security.
  - b. Coordinate the use of the building by individuals and groups, resident and non-resident in Arden, including establishment and enforcement of procedures to govern such use.
  - c. Negotiate and administer leases and other contracts, approved by the Town Assembly for use of the Buzz Ware Village Center building.

Following amendment added.

- d. Encourage and initiate cultural, recreational, educational and civic activities in the Buzz Ware Village Center.

The motion was carried with one nay vote.

Aaron Hamburger proposed a motion to establish financial procedure for operating the Buzz Ware Village Center that was approved.

WHEREAS the incorporated Village of Arden has entered into an Agreement dated July 7, 1973 with the Wilmington Montessori Association for the latter's use of the Buzz Ware Village Center, formerly the Arden School,



which Agreement provides for monthly payments by the Association to Arden covering (a) the cost of custodial and security services and (b) possible major building repairs and equipment replacements, and

WHEREAS for purposes of convenience and simplification of bank accounts, it is desirable to deposit the Association payments in the bank account maintained by the Trustees of Arden, otherwise known as the General Fund, and to make appropriate disbursements therefrom by checks signed by those authorized by the Trustees;

THEREFORE IT IS RESOLVED that the Town Assembly of Arden agrees to the above mentioned handling of payments from the Association under the July 7, 1973 Agreement or any future amendments thereto, under the following conditions:

1. The Secretary to the Trustees shall maintain separate accounting records of such funds, to be known as the Village Center Fund, in the name of the incorporated Village of Arden.
2. The Trustees shall make disbursements of these funds only upon written authorization of any two members of the Village Center Committee; except that for any disbursement of \$1,000. or more, authorization of a majority of the Committee is required.
3. When the accumulation of cash in the Village Center Fund is appreciably more than current needs require, the excess shall be transferred to a separate interest bearing bank account in the name of the incorporated Village of Arden, so that interest may accrue to the Fund. Withdrawals, there from, may be made by the Village Treasurer only for the purposes mentioned herein.
4. Any amount remaining in the Village Center Fund, after payment of all obligations following expiration of the Agreement with the Association, shall be included in income of the Village subject to budgeting under existing procedures. If the Agreement is extended beyond its present expiration date of July 7, 1978, the Town Assembly by majority vote shall determine the portion, if any, of the Fund balance to be carried forward into the extended period of the Agreement.

A motion was made and passed to amend the duties of the Advisory Committee:

Moved: That the duties of the Advisory Committee be amended to add responsibility to present nominations to the Village Center Committee at the January meeting as done for all standing committees of the Town Assembly of the Village of Arden.

A motion was made and seconded that an official Program and Recreational committee be established to develop, encourage, and initiate recreational activities in Arden consisting of at least five members elected by the Town Assembly at the March meeting.

It was suggested that it be an appointed for at least a year before it becomes a permanent committee to be sure it is not overlapping other committees and is necessary. After considerable discussion of the motion the question was called and the motion was defeated by 16 ayes and 26 nay votes.

Warren Hoffman proposed the following motion which carried:

It is resolved that Federal Revenue Sharing Funds be expended for roads and administrative expenses as received until otherwise directed by the Town Assembly.



The following were nominated to serve on the Board of Assessors.  
Election is by referendum in October:

Aaron Hamburger, Michael Curtis, Joan(Penny) Colgan, Bernard Brachman,  
Shaul Gladstone, Carl Von Dreele, Morris Rosin, Frank Herzog, Eugene Shaw,  
Harold Monfort, Ted E. Davis, Carolyn Liberman, Ingeborg Stephens,  
Richard Lynch.

The Town Assembly went on record as wishing to send its sympathy  
to the family of I. B. Finkelstein and Margaret Broadbent ~~to note~~ their  
deaths. The secretary was instructed to write to the families.

The meeting on motion adjourned,

Respectfully submitted,

*Mary Morley*

Mary Morley, Secretary